



ARTICLE ALERT

Information Resource Center, December 2011

Indonesia and America Building on Success in Fighting HIV/AIDS

World AIDS Day is both a day of remembrance and a day of celebration. As we approach 30 years of HIV/AIDS, we reflect on the more than 30 million people around the globe that lost their lives to this devastating disease, and pledge our support to the more than 34 million people worldwide who live with HIV/AIDS. It is also a day to celebrate those whose lives have been saved in Indonesia and throughout the world. On this World AIDS Day, it is important to remember that everybody shares in the responsibility of making smart choices to save more lives.

The U.S. Government is committed to working in partnership with the Government of Indonesia and local communities to stem the spread of HIV/AIDS. Jointly with the Ministry of Health, National AIDS Commission, and civil society organization, we support those affected and engaged in the fight against HIV/AIDS. U.S. Government activities support and strengthen the Government of Indonesia's response to the epidemic, build the capacity of civil society organizations that provide services to affected populations, and support for the National AIDS Commission's Indonesia Partnership Fund. In 2011, the USG contributed \$13 million in bilateral assistance to Indonesia's HIV program. In addition, the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, TB and malaria disbursed \$27 million to Indonesia for HIV grants in 2011; the US contributes approximately 30 percent of total Global Fund resources.

Globally, the U. S. Government supports people and programs that work every day to provide HIV prevention, treatment, and care to millions. Our commitment continues in this important effort. President Barack Obama put forward an ambitious Global Health Initiative, which will support coordinated programs aimed at reducing lives lost from a wide range of health challenges, including HIV/AIDS. It builds on the success of the U.S. President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) and other global health programs.

While progress has been made in the fight against HIV/AIDS in Indonesia and across the globe, much more remains to be done. In Bali this past month, Presidents Yudhoyono and Obama reaffirmed their commitment to work together to meet our shared goal of stemming the spread of HIV/AIDS through the U.S.-Indonesia Comprehensive Partnership. Secretary of State Clinton has called on the world to create the first 'AIDS-free generation' by using antviral drugs, condoms, and other approaches to stem the spread of HIV. It is a hopeful moment in the fight against HIV/AIDS. On this World AIDS Day, we recognize how far we have come, and acknowledge the lengths we still must travel. Guided by science, in a spirit of shared responsibility, we can achieve the goal of an AIDS-free generation.

Source: <http://goo.gl/Kwsgp>

HIV/AIDS Info



AIDS.gov works to increase HIV testing and care among people most at-risk for, or living with, HIV, by using emerging communication strategies to provide access to Federal HIV information, policies (e.g. the National HIV/AIDS Strategy), programs, resources and using new media to the American public. Explore their website at <http://www.aids.gov/>

U.S. Health Observances:

March 10 is National Women and Girls HIV/AIDS Awareness Day. <http://goo.gl/EiBhh>

May 18 is HIV Vaccine Awareness Day. <http://goo.gl/tns9E>

June 27 is National HIV Testing Day. <http://goo.gl/B5vJv>

December 1 is World AIDS Day. <http://goo.gl/71p2L>

U.S. Embassy Jakarta Mission Statement

Based on mutual respect and shared values, the U.S. Mission works with Indonesia to strengthen democracy, sustain the environment, promote prosperity, enhance understanding and ensure security for our people, our nations, and our region.

Inside this issue:

Indonesia and America Building on Success in Fighting HIV/AIDS	1
Democracy and Global Issues	2
eJournal USA: A Healthy Future	2
Economic Security	2
International Security	3
U.S. Education, Society & Values	3
Holidays in the United States	3
About IRC	4
Request Form	4

Copies of the articles listed in Article Alert are available from the Information Resource Center, Public Affairs Section, U.S. Embassy Jakarta. Should you wish to receive a photocopy of an article, please complete the ARTICLE ALERT REQUEST FORM (page 4) and return it to us. We will mail or fax the requested articles directly to you at no cost.

DEMOCRACY AND GLOBAL ISSUES

1. Abraham, Laurie **TEACHING GOOD SEX** (New York Times Magazine. November 20, 2011)

Abraham discusses the history and development of sex education in the US. Back then, even public schools taught what came to be called comprehensive sex education, nonjudgmental instruction on bodies, birth control, disease prevention and healthy relationships—all geared to helping teenagers make responsible choices. But by the end of the 1980s, sex education had taken its place in the basket of wedge issues dividing the right and left. This created the opening for abstinence instruction to bulldoze any curriculum that didn't treat sex as forbidden for teenagers. But many others in the field remain comprehensive sex education believers, including Al Vernacchio whose goal was to prompt the students in Sexuality and Society—an elective for seniors at the private Friends' Central School on Philadelphia's affluent Main Line. Currently available online at <http://goo.gl/ZuQG2>

2. Cowen, Tyler **6 IDEAS FOR THE ASH HEAP OF HISTORY** (Foreign Policy. December 2011)

The world can be a humbling place for the purveyor of big ideas. Each year, earth-shattering events, be it the September 11 attacks, the 2008 financial crisis, or the 2011 Arab Spring, upend received wisdom and demand fresh thinking. The big ideas that should be thrown out this year are: 1. Illegal Mexican immigration is a growing threat. 2. Green energy will save everyone. 3. Bank runs are a thing of the past. 4. The Eurozone is for pretty much everyone in Europe. 5. Bailouts should be incremental. 6. Fiscal stimulus should be temporary, targeted, and timely. Currently available online at <http://goo.gl/UlIxxj>

3. Grandoni, Dino **WHY WE UNFRIEND PEOPLE ON FACEBOOK** (The Atlantic Wire Online, December 2011)

A newly release chart from Nielsen shows the most common reasons we friend and more importantly, unfriend people on Facebook. The No. 1

reason anyone sends anyone else a friend request is obvious: they know the person in real life. But Atlantic Wire reasons for performing that online sacrilege that is unfriending are of course juicier. Most of those surveyed (55 percent) say they have unfriended someone because of "offensive comments" they have made, followed by not knowing the friend well enough at 44 percent. "Research suggests that real world interactions drive online friendships," writes Nielsen Media Research on its blog . Currently available online at <http://goo.gl/EDcEb>

eJournal USA: A Healthy Future



This issue of eJournal USA considers the factors that contribute to success in improving health — and health systems — in many parts of the world. Increasing the capacity of developing countries to care for their populations themselves is an element common to many successful programs. Physicians Vanessa Bradford Kerry and David Bangsberg call for steady investments by the United States and other donor countries to bolster re-

cipient countries' health care systems, with an emphasis on training health care workers. Involving the recipients of development aid in planning and managing health programs is another recurrent element. The U.S. Global Health Initiative described in this issue takes its cue from new thinking about health based on these and other approaches. Other articles make the case for engaging communities, patients, diaspora groups and idealistic innovators in efforts to attack disease on many fronts and from many directions. Available online in PDF at <http://goo.gl/pj0l5>

ECONOMIC SECURITY

4. **COMMERCE OFFICIAL ON U.S. TRADE RELATIONS IN ASIA-PACIFIC** (IIPDigital.state.gov, December 16, 2011)

Commerce Department Under Secretary for International Trade Sanchez spoke about multilateral or regional arrangements, APEC, ASEAN and Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP), U.S. recently concluded free trade agreement with the Republic of Korea, and a few words about China. He was gave a few comments on individual ASEAN members before closing with some observations on Indonesia, specifically, and U.S.—Indonesia rapidly expanding bilateral relationship. Complete speech is available online at <http://goo.gl/8G0ZX>

5. Handley, Meg **5 REASONS THE ECONOMY WILL BE BETTER IN 2012** (U.S. News & World Report. November 2011).

The million-dollar question remains whether these improvements can be sustained. According to most economists, the outlook for the U.S. economy is a mixed bag, but there are some definite bright spots. Here are five reasons the economy could look slightly better in 2012: 1. Moderate economic growth. 2. No second recession. 3. More business spending. 4. Improving employment outlook. 5. Housing starts increase. Full text of the article is available at <http://goo.gl/fDAp2>

INTERNATIONAL SECURITY

6. Parent, Joseph M. and MacDonald, Paul K. **THE WISDOM OF RETRENCHMENT** (Foreign Affairs, November/December 2011)

The United States can no longer afford a world-spanning foreign policy. Retrenchment -- cutting military spending, redefining foreign priorities, and shifting more of the defense burden to allies -- is the only sensible course. Luckily, that does not have to spell instability abroad. History shows that pausing to recharge national batteries can renew a dominant power's international legitimacy.

U.S. EDUCATION, SOCIETY & VALUES

8. Carey, Kevin **FOR COMMUNITY COLLEGES, A TIME TO SHINE** (The Chronicle of Higher Education. December 11, 2011).

What is the best community college in America? There will never be unanimous agreement about who's No. 1. But the fact that the question makes sense at all shows something important: In the four-year higher-education sector, community colleges embrace the idea of excellence. Currently available at <http://goo.gl/WUefx>

9. Metzler, Rebekah **TOP 10 MOST INFLUENTIAL POLITICAL NEWCOMERS OF 2011** (U.S. News & World Report, December 20, 2011)

The year 2011 occupied the political space that existed between the upheaval of the 2010 mid-term elections and the build-up to the 2012 presidential elections. It was a year marked as much by foreign events as domestic, between the Arab Spring and a still stagnant national economy. Yet several new players fought their way to the top and made their mark on the political discussion and policies of the country. U.S. News & World Report compile a list of the most influential political newcomers of 2011. Currently available at <http://goo.gl/T78zv>

10. **THE NO. 1 HOLIDAY COOKIE IN EACH OF THE 50 STATE IS...** (Readers Digest, December 2011)

Everyone loves sugar cookies, chocolate-chip cookies, and gingerbread. But what did bakers in each of the 50 states pick for their holiday trays besides the straight-up national favorites? Based on page views last December at the sister site of Reader's Digest, here are 50 recipes as the winners. Read more at <http://goo.gl/nc312>

11. Worsham, Lynn **FAST-FOOD SCHOLARSHIP** (The Chronicle of Higher Education. December 12, 2011).

As a long-time editor of a scholarly journal, the author noticed a growing trend that too many academics are producing scholarship that appears to have traded careful, methodical, fully developed intellectual work for quick and dirty publication. In this article the author think of such half-baked work as "fast-food scholarship". It is characterized by several factors: 1.

7. Widmer, Ted **THIRD -YEAR BLUES** (International Herald Tribune Magazine, December 2011)

Ted Widmer writes often on the history of the presidency. In this article, he mention that Presidents routinely experience a decline in popularity as the impossible dream of transformational change gives way to the reality of gridlock, cynicism and an insatiable media cycle that inherently prefers extremism to moderation. Paradoxically, the more hope a candidate inspires, the more vicious the downturn can be. Read more at <http://goo.gl/IWEku>

Minimal, selective citation. 2. Reliance on minimal or anecdotal evidence. 3. Distorted arguments. 4. Woefully undeveloped manuscripts. Full text of this article is available at <http://goo.gl/ZfemL>

12. Zabriskie, Christian **LIBRARIES OCCUPY THE HEART OF MOVEMENT** (American Libraries. November/December 2011).

The People's Library at Occupy Wall Street in New York City started spontaneously shortly after the protest began on September 17, when a pile of books was left in a cardboard box at Zuccotti Park on Wall Street. The books were passed around and organized, and more were soon added. Unfortunately, this first collection was lost due to inclement weather and another collection was quickly begun. Several weeks later, Betsy Fagin brought the idea of a people's library before the General Assembly of the occupation and was appointed librarian of Occupy Wall Street. Since then the library has been growing and expanding exponentially. There are dozens of plastic bins dividing the books into categories and areas of interest. There is lighting in place, a reading room, and a constant flow of visitors and patrons. Full text is available at <http://goo.gl/zibZW>

Holidays in the United States



Americans celebrate a variety of federal holidays and other national observances throughout the year. American holidays can be secular, religious, international, or uniquely American.

This issue of IRC information package gives you information on holidays celebrated by many Americans, such as New Year's Day, Independence Day, and Thanksgiving. Complete information is available online in PDF at <http://goo.gl/FCJLs>

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

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Information Resource Center
Public Affairs Section
U.S. Embassy Jakarta
Jl. Medan Merdeka Selatan 4-5
Jakarta 10110

Phone: +62-21-3508467
Fax: +62-21-3508466
E-mail: ircjakarta@state.gov

About the Information Resource Center

The U.S. Embassy's Information Resource Center (IRC) in Jakarta is a specialized reference and research facility whose goal is to provide you with accurate, up-to-date and authoritative information about U.S. society and policy materials, covering such topics as U.S. foreign policy, government, economics and trade, history, social and cultural issues. Three professionally-trained reference specialists will help you to retrieve needed-information quickly, conveniently, and free of charge.

The IRC collection includes a reference collection, a periodicals section, and access to extensive online commercial-databases. For details on reference and periodical collections, please check our online catalog at <http://69.63.217.22/U10086Staff/OPAC/index.asp>.

For all IRC information products, including this Article Alert are available online at: <http://jakarta.usembassy.gov/infoproduct.html>

Information queries may be submitted to us by phone, fax, mail, and e-mail. You are also welcome to visit us by appointment for personal research assistance.

Disclaimer: Books, articles, and websites described in the Article Alert present a diversity of views in order to keep our IRC users abreast of current issues in the United States. These items represent the views and opinions of the authors and do not necessary reflect official U.S. Government policy.

ARTICLE ALERT REQUEST FORM

NO. 12, December 2011

Please write your complete name and address IN CAPITAL LETTERS, check (✓) the articles and send your request for December 2011 Article Alert items to the Information Resource Center, U.S. Embassy, before March 2012 via fax (021) 350-8466 or email (ircjakarta@state.gov)

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Request for:

- ☐ 1. TEACHING GOOD SEX
- ☐ 2. 6 IDEAS FOR THE ASH HEAP OF HISTORY
- ☐ 3. WHY WE UNFRIEND PEOPLE ON FACEBOOK
- ☐ 4. COMMERE OFFICIAL ON U.S. TRADE RELATIONS
- ☐ 5. 5 REASONS THE ECONOMY WILL BE BETTER IN 2012
- ☐ 6. THE WISDOM OF RETRECHMENT
- ☐ 7. THIRD -YEAR BLUES
- ☐ 8. FOR COMMUNITY COLLEGES, A TIME TO SHINE
- ☐ 9. TOP 10 MOST INFLUENTIAL POLITICAL NEWCOMERS OF 2011
- ☐ 10. THE NO. 1 HOLIDAY COOKIE IN EACH OF THE 50 STATE IS...
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